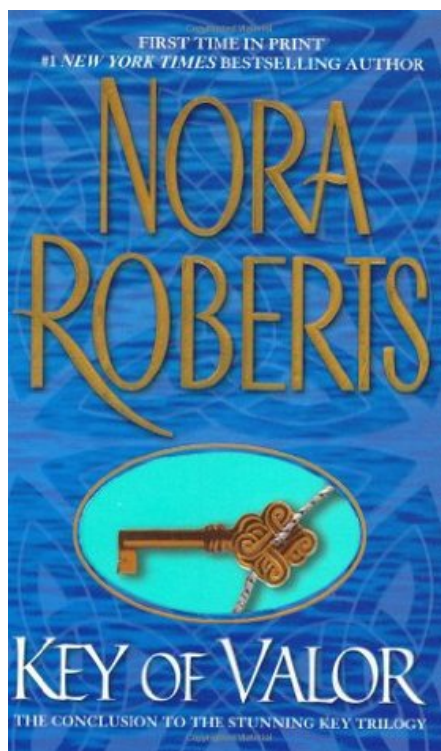




Key of Valor

Nora Roberts

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What happens when the very gods depend on mortals for help?

That's what three very different young women find out when they are invited to Warrior's Peak.

Light and knowledge have succeeded in their quest, and two of the keys have been found. Both Malory and Dana had taken their turns. The final, and last, test goes to Zoe McCourt - valor.

Now it was her burden, her risk. Her chance. She had to be brave enough, smart enough, strong enough, or everything they'd done before her would be for nothing.

Zoe has the courage to raise her young son alone, and to face all the adversity life has thrown at them. But will she have the courage to face a foe determined to do anything to stop the third key from being found - even destroying everything - and everyone - she loves?

Key of Valor Details

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From Reader Review Key of Valor for online ebook

Dina says

This final installment in the **Key** trilogy was the weakest for me. I don't know, maybe I shouldn't have read all three books in a row, because reading about the tale of the three demigoddesses' souls trapped in a box of glass and how three mortal women, the heroines, were destined to find the "keys" to release them got a bit stale this time around. It was pretty much the same basic thing all over again, and neither Zoe nor Brad, the couple *du jour*, was compelling enough to engage my full interest.

I admit I didn't like Zoe very much from the glimpses I had on the previous books, Key of Light and Key of Knowledge: she came across like this "wonder woman", larger than life and independent to the point of being too stubborn. Unfortunately, my impression didn't change after reading this book and there was a time or two when I wanted to give her a good shake to make her see reason. Her reluctance to accept Brad's love was justifiable in the beginning - after all, single mothers are, or should be, wary when considering a new romantic relationship - but I thought she dragged it a little too long. If Brad was a "shady" character, I could understand it, but he was far from it.

Brad was the handsome, honest millionaire with a heart of gold, no flaws and not a single skeleton in the closet. He fell fast and hard for Zoe and, bonus points there, he also adored her son Simon. The ultimate good guy, he was perfection in flesh and bone, there was absolutely *nothing* wrong with him... and I couldn't care less about him. Would I love to have a guy like him in real life? Sure! But that kind of hero doesn't work for me in Romancelandia, I'm sorry to say. Hmm, maybe that's why Zoe took so long to fall for him, LOL.

As for the search for Zoe's "key", it was obvious - for me, not for Zoe - that the answer was (view spoiler) so the mystery part of the story didn't add much spark to make this an engrossing read. I was kind of bored halfway through the book, since neither the romance nor the mystery was thrilling. It's somewhat funny: I liked the mystery but not the romance in Key of Light, liked the romance but not the mystery in Key of Knowledge, and didn't like either the romance and the mystery in Key of Valor. Not exactly the combo I wanted.

Since this was the third and last book in the series, Key of Valor ends with a nice scene featuring only the three heroines in order to give closure to the whole quest for the "keys". While I understood the reason behind the way NR chose to end the story, I was left feeling that (view spoiler) That was the final nail in the coffin for me... Meh!

Branwen Sedai *of the White Ajah* says

"I think you should do what makes you happy. And sometimes doing what makes you happy is harder and scarier than doing what's safe."

In this third and last book in Nora Robert's Key trilogy Zoe must come to terms with her past and her present if she is to locate the final key, the Key of Valor, and release the three daughters from their imprisonment.

I really can't say enough about this series. It is such a perfect blend of magic, mystery, and romance. I loved learning more about Zoe in this book and finding out what makes her tick. I loved seeing her grow as a character as she learned to accept help from others, and that it is okay to care about and depend on friends

and family. And I loved watching her and Brad fall completely in love with each other.

Overall this was a great book and I highly recommend this series!

Apoorv Moghe says

Aly says

Magic, destiny and gods, that's the new reality of Zoe McCourt for the past two months. The preparations for the upcoming opening of three new combined shop at the same address with her friends are well advanced. Malory will handle the art gallery, Dana manage the library/tea room and Zoe have the beauty salon. But now it's her time to search for the last key to save the souls of three goddesses. The pressure is stronger on her since Dana and Mallory already found theirs so if she fails, everyone loses.

Thanks to unreliable parents, Zoe learned at a young age to take care of herself and depend on no one. Pregnant at sixteen, she still had to manage on her own and is used to doing everything by herself. But she never regretted it, because her nine-years-old boy is her treasure. But when the quest for the key brought Bradley Charles Vane IV, heir to Homemakers enterprise, in her life, it destabilized her. Not used to a man's attention, she misinterpreted what he says or does. He's too pretty, too rich, too everything and she feels intimidated. But Brad is not a man who gives up and when he wants something, there's no stopping him, no matter the time it will take. It makes him sound like a ruthless man but he's the opposite. He's just a patient and clever man who knows what he wants.

Awareness, annoyance and attraction, what a great way to tell us Zoe and Brad's love story. Ever since we saw the sparks between them in the first book, I knew they would be great together. By book 2, I had the strong impression they would be my favorites and I couldn't wait to see where this amazing chemistry was going. Individually, they were great characters and as a couple they were just as awesome. How Brad did his courtship, the things he said, what he did, it was all swoon-worthy. Add to that the special bond he quickly developed with Simon (Zoe's son), it's no surprise the heroine and I fell for him. Maybe some people will find Zoe too stubborn and wary but I thought her mama bear's attitude was one of her best features. I also like how she sees life as something not easy but worth it and that she's proud of what she did and who she became. The scene where she goes to see her mother and what she said to her, it all showed what an incredible, strong and amazing woman she is. One of the most inspirational characters I've ever read for sure.

One of the great things about this series was the friendship between the three women, but I really enjoyed the friendship between the three guys too.

Finally, I liked how the author subtly raises the questions : what is love ? Is it a matter of chance ? or is it fate ? Do you have a say in it or was it already written and no matter what you do it will lead you to it ?

Tammy says

Review for all three books in the trilogy.

The thing about these books isn't the vaguely supernatural plot or the romance, it's the found-family.

There is a vaguely supernatural plot. Strangers, Malory, Dana, and Zoe, are all invited to a mysterious gathering hosted by the even more mysterious Rowena and Pitte. They're told a story about a god, soon to be king, who traveled into the mortal world, fell in love with a human woman. He brought her back to his world and they had three beautiful daughters. When those daughters were grown an evil sorcerer, rival for the king's power, cast a spell on them, trapping their souls in a glass box, leaving their bodies lifeless. The only way the spell could be broken is if three mortal women found the keys to the glass box. Malory, Dana, and Zoe are those three mortal women.

There is romance. The first book centers on Malory, and deals with her romance with Finn. The second on Dana and her romance with Jordan. The third on Zoe and Brad. But the wonderful thing about these books is how little time they spend on romance and how much they spend on the friendship growing between Malory, Dana, and Zoe, the pre-existing friendship between Flynn, Jordan, and Brad, and the way these six people become family to each other. Not only do the three women fulfill their quests and find their loves, they also start a business together and spend a great deal of time discussing how wonderful, helpful, and supportive the friendship they're developing is. Sure, there's a great deal of discussion about each other's love lives, but there's also a great deal of discussion about the business, each other's talents, and what each wants from life. To a lesser degree--because this is the women's story, after all--the men have similar discussions.

Found-family is my thing. It gets me every time. And these six people, plus Rowena, Pitte, Zoe's son Simon, and Flynn's goofy dog Moe, make a great family.

Kimberley doruyter says

good ending to a good trilogy.
i will be reading more nora roberts in future.

Liza Wiemer says

This may have been my favorite of all three. But then again, reading these back to back made the experience so much better and satisfying! Love the Irish mythology and the HEAs!

Melis says

Serinin son kitab?.. yine güzeldi. Özellikle Simon'a bay?ld?m. O küçük o?lan nedense beni benden ald? ? Ba?ka bir ?ey yazmama gerek yok zira Nora ablay? biliyoruz..

Kathy says

Zoe and Bradley...and Simon...

Zoe - hairdresser, mother, resourceful, ... Pitte refers to her as both Little Warrior and Little Mother.

Abandoned by father, oldest of 4, mother a hairdresser from their trailer... at 16 she fell in 17 year old, son of one of her mother's rich client. When she comes up pregnant, he abandons her and her mother ridicules her. She leaves home, and begins a path to caring for herself and Simon.

Simon is now 10... they live in a small house of their own, where she did a lot of the home improvements herself.

Bradley... rich scion of the town's hardware family... he moved to NY for a dozen years, and has now moved back to Pleasant Valley, to the river house... with a great game room.

This trilogy was written differently than others... it is in fact one long story, that highlights a different woman, but all of them are growing... they're gearing up to open Indulgence... etc. Often trilogies seem like 3 separate stories... these were weaved together.

Zoe even more so than the other two, revisits her past, and the choices she made that brought her to the present. A psychological evaluation... and she must find the strength to not only fight Cain and his deceptions, but to trust Bradley.

Her key is found under the kitchen door mat... symbolizing her awareness that she truly belongs to Bradley & his life...

Jacob Proffitt says

The best of the trilogy, though not by a huge margin. If you've read the others, you know what you're getting into so I'll keep my remarks short.

At the start, Roberts takes Simon (Zoe's son) off the table as an attack vector for Cain. This is absolutely essential to prevent Simon from taking over the story. Also, it allows Brad to develop a natural relationship with Simon and seeing that evolve was a lot of the charm of the book.

I was a bit worried that Zoe would make a lousy warrior type and was pleasantly surprised with how well her protective instincts meshed with her innate stubbornness to make someone who would fight Cain with all that she had without flinching or defaulting before the fight began. I was less pleased that the same traits kept her avoiding intimacy with Brad for so long. There's really no credible reason to avoid emotional entanglements, even from her historical perspective. Brad is clearly a decent, supportive guy who wouldn't even think of hurting her or her son (even inadvertently).

I liked the wrap-up of the larger storyline, as well. Roberts did a good job of letting us understand the dynamics of the court and how Rowena and Pit figured into them. And Zoe's solution to the tangled mess was both unexpected and exactly right.

A note about Steamy: Standard Roberts steam factor in this book. Not a bad thing.

Andreea says

I absolutely loved the relationship between Simon and Brad..

Dilara says

Sevdi?im serilerin sonuna gelmek beni her zaman üzer. Hele ki bunlar Anahtar Serisi gibi içinde her ?eyi bar?nd?ran türlerden ise.

Malory, Dana ve Zoe, üçüncü kitap ile Kelt tanr?çalar?n? serbest b?rakmakta son ad?ma geliyorlar. Son olarak kendi anahtar?n? bulma s?ras? Zoe'deydi. Ve ona yard?m edecek ki?i de Brad.

Zoe'in yüzünü süsleyen tabloyu görür görmez alan ve onu y?llar sonra kar??s?nda kanl? canl? bulan Brad'in nas?l hissetti?ini tahmin edebilirsiniz.

Erkek karakterimizin Zoe'ye kar?? olan sevgisi ve hayranl??? elbette ki özenilesi olsa da Zoe'nin bu ilgiye uzun bir süre direndi. Sonuçta geçmi?te a?z? çok fena yanımd? zengin bir züppe yüzünden. Onu cebinden on kere ç?karacak kadar zengin olan Brad'e direnmesi de gayet normal.

Tabi Brad durur mu flört etmeden, hiç. Bunun ötesinde Zoe'ye olan ilgisini kad?n? tedirgin etmeyecek bir biçimde göstermesi de ayr? güzeldi. Ve Zoe'nin o?lu ile olan ileti?imini de çok sevdim. Simon çok tatlı bir çocuktı. Zoe gibi bir anneden tam da o tarz bir çocuk beklenirdi.

Anahtar? ararken, Kane bir çok zorluk ç?kard? kar??s?na. Kimisini kendi cesareti, kimisini de dostlar? ve Brad sayesinde a?may? ba?ard?.

Zoe, Dana ve Malory'nin de i? kurma planlar? tam gaz devam ediyordu. Okurken sanki kendi i? yerimi aç?yormu? gibi hissettim. Yazar okuyucuyu görünmeyen dördüncü ortak gibi hissettirmeyi ba?arm??.

Roberts sade ve yal?n anlat?m?yla okuyucu kendine ba?l?yor sihirli bir ?ekilde.

Mary says

Of all the Key books, at a glance, it was the title of this book that already spoke volumes to me.

Fiction books have always captured me. Being able to slip into worlds I'll never step foot on. Stepping into the shoes of the hero. Feeling the laughter bubble in my gut when the humor and sarcasm of such characters pop out of the page. The warm feeling of sunlight in my chest when I see the clarity and intensity of love between family, friends and lovers. I can keep going with many more euphemisms to escape the blunt pleasure I get when reading a book.

Simply put, this is the 3rd trilogy of Nora's that I've read. Circle was the first: I'm stuck. Sign of 7 second: I'm intrigued. This did me in. Though I laughed less with this book, it still brought home all the joys and loves I have about reading. The romance between Zoe and Brad tugged just as much as Dana and Jordan. I felt the battle at the end was a bit rushed, and required more detail, but maybe I can pinpoint that on my being greedy for action, excitement, the literal battle between the light and the dark. Zoe's struggles were admirable as was the man who stood beside her.

For once, like Zoe, I'm not going to argue and say wow. This book is one of my faves, especially with Zoe's young son Simon in it because he was the icing on top of my cupcake, because I'm a romantic and it really

hits home of what I've dreamed, fought for, am still fighting for and wanted.

Nancy Brady says

The third and final book in this trilogy equals the first two. It's Zoe's quest to find the third and final key to unlock the Daughters of Glass. Added into the mix is romance and intrigue as she examines her past in light of her present. Kane tries to tempt her into giving into despair while Bradley does his utmost to win the love of Zoe, the warrior of the trio that includes Dana and Malory.

Will she succeed in finding the key before her month is up, or will the quest be a failure? What does her son Simon play in the quest? How about Bradley?

Each of the stories build on the others, but it could stand alone; however, read them all in the order written to understand the progression of the ladies' adventures helping Rowena, Pitte, and the Celtic gods to restore life to their world behind the curtain.

Cyndi says

Such a wonderful book!!! This ends the trilogy of the keys. And, it goes out with a bang! Nora Roberts has the gift of bringing all three books together seamlessly, building on the excitement in each book, then wrapping it all up to a beautiful happy ending.
